

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 12468 281514Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 DLOS-09 OES-06 IO-13  
EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02  
SS-15 L-03 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 /102 W  
-----281940Z 029716 /50

P R 281458Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2208  
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12468

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR PLOS PBOR LY IT TS FR  
SUBJ: TUNISIAN-LIBYAN SHELF DISPUTE: FURTHER  
CONSULTATIONS WITH QUAI

REF: (A) STATE 93301, (B) TUNIS 2903, (C) PARIS 11206

1. ON APRIL 28, WE ADVISED QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICA (ALBIS) ABOUT VARIATIONS IN ELY STUDY ALONG LINES REF A, SUGGESTING THAT TUNISIANS THEMSELVES MIGHT BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE FRENCH WITH DETAILED JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THEIR CLAIMS. ALBIS INDICATED THAT THE INDIRECT FRENCH MEDIATION EFFORT WOULD PROBABLY NOT GET OFF THE GROUND FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS. HE IMPLIED THAT THE FRENCH PLAN TO WORK THROUGH SOME ARAB COUNTRY BUT EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM THAT LIBYA WOULD EVEN RESPOND, MUCH LESS ACCEPT, THE MEDIATION OFFER. ALBIS ALSO SAID THAT THE QUAI HAD JUST RECEIVED A REPORT THAT ALGERIA IS ABOUT TO LAUNCH A SEPARATE MEDIATION EFFORT, ALLEGEDLY ON THE BASIS OF URGING JOINT TUNISIAN-LIBYAN EXPLOITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF  
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WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO EACH SIDE'S CLAIMS. AGAIN, HE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE PROSPECTS.

2. ELABORATING A BIT ON HIS NEGATIVE ATTITUDE, ALBIS SAID THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME HE WAS BEGINNING TO THINK THAT HIS ANALYSIS THAT IT EVENTUALLY MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO WORK WITH QADHAFI MAY BE WRONG. THE RECENT

HANGINGS, THE GROWING DISSATISFACTION OF THE LIBYAN  
BOURGEOISIE, AND ADDITIONAL SIGNS THAT SOMETHING MAY BE  
WRONG IN THE ARMY, ALL LEND CREDENCE TO THE THEORY  
THAT QADHAFI IS LESS IN CONTROL THAN HE ONCE WAS.  
THUS, WITHOUT OUR HAVING TO REITERATE OUR CONTRARY  
VIEW, ALBIS APPEARED TO STEP BACK FROM THE STANCE  
HE TOOK IN PARA 2 OF REF C.  
GAMMON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONTINENTAL SHELF, DISPUTES, TERRITORIAL WATERS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PARIS12468  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770149-0063  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 93301, 77 TUNIS 2903, 77 PARIS 11206  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PLOS, PBOR, LY, IT, TS, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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